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Hongkong, 17th October, 1892.

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THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1892.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

It is requested that all communications relating to Subscriptions, Advertisements, &c., be addressed to the "Hongkong Telegraph" and not to the Editor.

Letters on Editorial matters to be sent to "The Editor" and not to individual members of the staff.

Communications intended for publication must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

While the columns of the "Hongkong Telegraph" will always be open for the fair discussion of all questions affecting public interests, it must be distinctly understood that the Editor does not in any way hold himself responsible for opinions thus expressed.

TO ADVERTISERS.

Advertisements are requested to forward all notices intended for insertion in that day's issue not later than Three o'clock so as not to retard the early publication of the paper.

Advertisements and notices which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until discontinued.

The "Hongkong Telegraph" has the largest circulation of any English newspaper published in the Far East, and is therefore the best medium for Advertisers. Terms can be learned on application.

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TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Subscribers to the "Hongkong Telegraph" are respectfully reminded that all communications are payable in advance.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 1893.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE P. & O. Co.'s steamer *Canton*, which left here on the 25th November last, arrived at London yesterday.

THE meeting of the Legislative Council summoned for to-day has been postponed till Wednesday, the 11th inst.

CAPT. HASTINGS this morning fined Adam Soares \$5, or 14 days imprisonment, for riding a bicycle over an old Chinese woman in Old Bailey yesterday, and ordered him to pay \$5 compensation, or take another fortnight's skill and shot drill. His Worship made some deservedly severe remarks on the carelessness which leads to such accidents.

Mr. Woodhouse, formerly Editor of the *Panang Gazette*, has gone to Bangkok to assist Mr. Thorne in the editorship of the *Bangkok Times*.

THERE was a most encouraging and appreciative audience at the City Hall yesterday afternoon, including His Excellency the Governor and party, who seemed to enjoy the performance immensely. The "Song of Neptune" will make their last appearance on Saturday night, after which "H.M.S. *Albatross*" will be paid off and broken up.

AT the Magistrate's to-day a Chinese ren collector, charged with embezzling over \$500 which he had collected for his employer during the last four months, admitted having appropriated the money to his own use on account of poverty, as he had a family to support, but urged that he had never any intention of bolting with the money, and was willing to pay it back. It was shown that his pay, including board and lodging, was not worth more than \$10 a month altogether. He was sent to goal for nine months.

A TALL, lank young man came into a New York editor's sanctum, and handing him a poem several feet long to read, said in a condescending sort of way:—

"You can publish this poem for \$10. That's below our usual rates, but times are hard."

"You misanderstand me, I mean you can have the poem by paying \$10."

"Can't take it, it's too cheap. It would be robbing you, for I know where you can get more than \$10 for it."

"Where?"

"Take it to a Justice of the Peace and read it to him; and you will get \$20 or thirty days in the County Jail if you don't pay your fine."

He looked sadly at the editor, shook his head and waited himself out the door.

MARTIN Meliton Sarate, the great Spanish virtuoso, was born at Pamplona in 1844, went to France as a child, and at the age of 12 entered the Paris Conservatoire, where he became the favorite pupil of Alard, and gained the first prize for violin-playing. When about 16 he took up the career of a concert player, in which the extreme beauty of his execution, aided doubtless by his singularly striking appearance, ensured his immediate success. No violinist has travelled more than he; he has played in every important city in Europe and America, and is well known to London audiences. His distinguishing characteristics are not so much fire, force and passion, though these he has in ample share, as purity of style, charm, flexibility and extraordinary facility. He sings on an instrument with the utmost feeling and expression, and without any of the affectation which robs the playing of many violinists of all charm. It is a disputed point among musicians whether Senor Sarate or Paganini is to be considered the greatest violinist of the age.

SAYS the *Shanghai Mercury*:—"The reduction in the price of gas from \$2 to \$1.85 for ordinary domestic lighting purposes, and to \$1.65 for gas engines and cooking stoves, will be welcome news to householders, and we are glad to see that the Gas Company have seen their way to make these changes more in consonance with the depressed financial condition of the place. We understand that the new rates will shortly be laid, which will enable the Company to supply a greater volume of gas to their customers at present, and thereby improve the illumination which they now supply at what, considering the rate of exchange, is a very reasonable rate indeed." Now, we want to know, if gas can be supplied in Shanghai at \$1.85, why Hongkong residents should be called upon to pay \$3 per thousand cubic feet? At home the rate is from two to three shillings. We can't afford in these hard times to pay for gas at the rate of \$3 per thousand feet, and unless the Gas Company, which has had for a generation a gay old holiday in Hongkong and no mistake—can see its way to reduce the tariff so as to meet the altered character of the age in which we live—why, we shall with infinite regret have to bring the Company to its bearings.

THE SEVEN AGES OF WOMAN.

(As Sir John Critchton Browne seems prophetic to see them.)

Woman's world's a stage, And modern women will be ill-cast players; They'll have new exits and strange entrances. And these her Seven Ages. First the infant, "Grinding" and "gapping" in its mother's arms, And then the plucked High School girl, with packed satchel.

And worn anemic face, creeping like a creeper Short-sightedly to school. Then the "free lover," Mouth open to them, or some cynic ballad. Mad against matrimony. Then a spouse, Full of long words and windy, a wife-puller. Jealous of office, fond of platform-post, Seeking that bubble She-enfranchisement. Then with abusive mouth. The County Council.

Her meagre bosom shrunk and barely lined, Full of "hard laws" and "unrestrained increments." Or playing M.P. part. The sixth age shifts. Into the withered spouse She-pantaloon. With spectacles on nose, and "Camp" too wide, Her azure hose, well-darned, a world too idle. For her shrunk, shanks; her once sweet woman's voice.

Veiled to Virgin-vinegariness, Grates harshly in its sound. Last scene of all. That ends this strange new-fangled history. Is sheer unwomanliness, mere sex-negation—Sane, sane, sans charms, sans grace, sans everything.

A LONDON writer observes:—"The average English husband tires of his wife, but he would of a harem if he had one. Man never is, but always to be lost. Wisdom is a rare quality in this world, but still rarer is that of being content with one's lot. I have a strong conviction that the average English husband gets at least the wife he deserves, and when he whines about the superiority of the French woman or the German he is like the musician who complains of his violin. Instrument for instrument, the Englishwoman is, I have no doubt, equal to the daughter of any other country. It is for the husband to get out of her what she can, and the result will probably depend in a greater degree than he suspects upon his own powers as a virtuoso. It has been remarked in this connection that the man who finds in his wife a good cook or a good housekeeper, and nothing more, will be very much obliged to her, but will go elsewhere for his romance. But what is his romance? I should like the suburban classmate to consider the daily round of life on a small island, and how little opportunity there is on the one side or the other for romance to come in! The husband, having been in the city all day, comes home to an evening meal, and after a pint of beer or other soporific falls asleep over the evening paper. The wife, for her part, has had a hard day, too, and, having got the children to bed, is glad to spend an hour with the work-basket. If in such a household the wife has fashioned the mysterious plain roast and boiled, and knows how to handle a baby, 'The Married Man' ought to be comfortably well satisfied. He gets out of marriage as much as, or more than, he brings to it."

THE Australian liner *Tai-yuan*, which arrived to-day from Japan, is in quarantine with two cases of small-pox. It is hoped that she may be released to-morrow.

DETECTIVE Green secured another \$100-or-three-months conviction for running a *tea* lottery to-day. This is becoming monotonous. Why not run in a few real criminals, and let the heathen gamble in peace?

At the Magistrate's this morning, before Capt. Hastings, a couple was sent to goal for six months for assaulting and robbing a Chinese merchant walking down Gough Street yesterday, and a watchman at the site station was rewarded with \$3 for helping to catch the prisoner. These rewards are all right, in their way, but the old plan of having a policeman on duty at that crowded corner was less expensive and probably more satisfactory.

WHEN the well-made American girl wants to convince creation that she has the best shape in the world being without the huge bust of the French or the aldermanic proportions of the English woman, she wears her close-fitting costume, put on, metaphorically speaking, with a shoe horn. She wears neither petticoat or divided skirt, but dons long stockings that reach as high as lights. Then she dons a black silk undershirt, over this buckles a close-fitting black skin belt, from which depend the rubber suspenders that hold up her stockings. Her dress skirt is then put on, and then the blouse, which is usually buttoned up under the arms. That's all. Then my lady looks as if she had been melted and run into her clothes as she walks away, "a thing of beauty and a joy for ever."

TO-DAY'S SHIPPING RETURNS.

Inward.

Hangchow	steamer, from Chinkiang.
Aden	" " Singapore.
Namoa	" " Swatow.
Tai-yuan	" " Nagasaki.
Canton	" " Canton.
Hsin-jung	" " Canton.
Kiut	" " Bangkok.

Aggregating 8,978 tons, register.

Outward.

Asi	steamer, for Halphong.
Freij	" " Hoihow.
Hongkong	" " Hoihow.
Avachii	" " Hongkong.
Malwa	" " Singapore.
Kuulin	" " Swatow.

Aggregating 6,999 tons, register.

THE Museum of Anatomy now open in Duddell Street affords an admirable opportunity to obtain a first-class object-lesson in the course of half an hour's inspection. Mr. Nafaty has an admirable collection of wax models, life-size, showing in complete and natural form all the internal organs and the muscular, arterial, venal, and nervous systems of human beings, with examples of various stages in development. The accuracy of the modelling and the value of the instruction thereby conveyed are testified by the medical men of the highest standing in all parts of the world, where Mr. Nafaty has exhibited; while to ordinary unprofessional observers, the museum is quite an education in itself. Mr. Nafaty has also fitted up in temporary rooms on the other side of Duddell Street a panorama of very fine views, showing scenes in the Japanese earthquake of 1891, the floods in Austria in 1881, the Tonicia war of 1884, the Russo-Turkish war, and hundreds of other pictures. In fact, he has such an extensive selection that he has been unable to find room to show a portion only, making frequent changes. Both collections are open from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., and the price of admission is very small.

BREAKING IT GENTLY.

"It is all right, Doctor!"

"Splendid, Jumble! Allow me to congratulate you."

"Is it a—boy?"

"The picture of his father."

"Doctor, this is the happiest moment of my life. It's selfishness on my part, though—for Louisa yearned for a daughter so fondly."

"In that case, Jumble, she won't be disappointed."

"Didn't you say it was a boy, Doctor?"

"The picture of his father."

"But Louisa wanted a girl."

"In that case, Jumble, as I said before, she won't be disappointed. For Heaven has more than gratified her desire."

"Do I understand you, Doctor?—Is it a twin?"

"You said you wanted a boy, did you not?"

"I did, Doctor."

"And your wife wanted a girl?"

"Yes, Doctor."

"Well, then, my friend, rest easy!"

"Then it's twins?"

"But in favouring you, Jumble, Heaven has doubly favoured your wife."

"And it's twins?"

"No, Jumble, not exactly. You see—"

"Great Caesar, Doctor, you mystify me! Relieve me of this anxiety, for play's sake. What is it?"

"Triplets!"

JACOLLINOT, in his "Bible of India," and Ramat-sar's "Texts and Commentaries on the Vedas" give the Hindu legend of Adam and Eve in substance as follows:—In the beginning God created Adima, the first man, and Heva, the first woman, which completed life. He placed them on the Island of Ceylon and commanded them never to quit their place of abode; but in the course of time in wandering over the island they saw a most beautiful land connected with theirs by lofty peaks and rugged rocks. The land beyond was most beautiful to behold, being covered with stately trees whose branches hung with fruits of every variety. Many colored birds flitted from bough to bough and made a perfect din of ever-changing music. Adima (note that this is directly opposite to the biblical account) tempted and induced Heva to violate the command of their Creator and accompany him to the paradise beyond the rocky peaks. When they had crossed the narrow neck of land which connected their island heaven with the mainland they heard a low cracking noise and looked around just in time to see the Ishmael bark in two and sink beneath the waters of the ocean. When it was plain that their way back to their island paradise had been cut off they turned their attention to their new home and found it a land of sand, thorns, rocks, brambles, its supposed beauty having been but a mirage raised by Rakshasas, the Spirit of Evil, to tempt them to disobedience. For this act they were doomed to perpetual labor and final death.

THE VANISHING ACT.

It is reported that a \$100,000 "vanishing act" has just been performed with great success in Foochow. The gentleman who is said to have made this brilliant financial coup is compradore is one of the largest Eastern firms. Particulars we hold over, pending authentic confirmation.

SUPREME COURT.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

(Before Chief Justice Fielding Clarke.)

January 5th.

"ANCIENT LIGHTS."

The hearing of the motion of Ng Li Shing to dismiss the suit of E. R. Bellios for an injunction in the matter of certain buildings in Lyndhurst Terrace alleged to interfere with established "ancient light" rights across the road, was concluded this morning. His Lordship reserving judgment. The plaintiff was represented by Mr. Leach and Mr. Pollock, instructed by Messrs. Wotton and Deacon; and the defendant by Mr. Francis and Dr. Ho Kai, instructed by Mr. C. D. Wilkison.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

(Before Mr. E. J. Akeroyd Pulins Judge.)

A BOARDING-HOUSE DISPUTE.

Wang Wan Shi sued Choi Suk Hung and another for damages for wrongful arrest. Mr. Hastings was for plaintiff and Mr. Philippo for defendant.

From the evidence it appeared that plaintiff was the wife of a boarder who had left defendant's lodging-house without paying his bill and her bill. Defendants had detained the woman, and sued her for the amount. They failed to prove the wife's liability, and now she sought damages for the arrest. The defence was that the keeper of the establishment had only done what seemed reasonable in the eyes of a layman ignorant of legal technicalities.

Case adjourned until Tuesday next.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.)

CHRISTMAS DAY AND HISTORY.

To the Editors of the "Hongkong Telegraph."

DEAR SIR:—In reply to "A Student of History," I have to inform that gentleman that Dr. Youan, an American astronomer, also states that the eclipse I wrote of in my last letter took place on the death of the Herod, and also other works read by the writer.

The writings of Josephus are not so reliable as the works of other authors of repute.

I recollect the writings of Josephus to a certain extent, because when a scholar in Chester Cathedral, I read his books which adorned my father's extensive library, and he insisted upon me studying ancient and modern history, and being guided by a retentive memory I do not find it necessary to be continually poring over musty volumes.

It must be distinctly understood that I do not pretend to give the exact date of the nativity of Christ, but I wish to impress upon sceptics that his birth and manner of life is a certainty. There are so many persons, both literary, and illiterate, who read a lot of trash derogatory to the verity of Scriptural events, that it becomes necessary to undeceive them, lest peradventure they go astray.

On such data, Sir Isaac Newton determines the period of the Jewish dispensation, and Cavallius founds his Chronology on 144 eclipses of the sun, and yet of the moon, which he had calculated for the purpose of determining epochs and settling dates.

The grand conjunction of the planets Jupiter and Saturn, which occurs once in 800 years, is the same point of the Zodiac, furnishes chronology with incontrovertible proofs of the date of events, when such phenomena happen to be recorded.

On such data, Sir Isaac Newton determines the period of the Jewish dispensation, and Cavallius founds his Chronology on 144 eclipses of the sun, and yet of the moon, which he had calculated for the purpose of determining epochs and settling dates.

He also settles to be antecedent to a knowledge of the astronomical cycle of six hundred years, which Mautsila, in his "History of Mathematics," thinks with much greater reason was an invention of the Chaldeans.

In the movement of Ozymandias, it is said there was a golden circle of three hundred and sixty-five cubits in circumference, divided into three hundred and sixty-five equal parts. Accordingly, the ancients were well versed in astronomy. I now append some correspondence to the *Hongkong Telegraph* in 1886, in reference to our Jewish dispensation, which may prove of interest to many persons.

While more of historical interest, but being a patient of Dr. Cantile's with a sore head, I refrain for the present, and moreover, my pupils are waiting for necessary information to pass a creditable examination at the Hongkong Board.

I have to thank "A Student of History" for his favourable opinion of me. Also I enclose a letter from a gentleman in Amoy, respecting the same.

J. A. CLARKE.

Hongkong, 5th January, 1893.

(Any person feeling interested in the likeness of Christ may turn up the file of the *Hongkong Telegraph* of 24th November, 1886, or the 25th, and read the correspondence, which is too extensive to be reproduced here. We are becoming so deeply fascinated in these ancient records that we have to call on the assistance of the Office Clerk, but even that was not good enough.—Ed.—*Hongkong Telegraph*.)

LATE TELEGRAMS.

FOUR, December 6th.

On the night of the 29th November Lieut. Quin, commanding sixty men of the 88th M.L., successfully attacked a Chinook village in Sanyoon Yaw sub-division, killing four Chinese including the Chief and capturing three. Casualties on our side were, only one sepoy wounded. The fighting was done chiefly by bayonets. These Chinese continually give trouble, hence this expedition.

CALCUTTA, December 10th.

The Government of India has replied to the Official Secretary of the Currency Association that it would not be justified in recommending the Secretary of State to stop the sale of Council Bills for an indefinite period beyond any fixed rate, and whatever may be the results of the Conference, or Lord Herschell's Committee, the Government of India will be in a better position to deal with the circumstances that may arise. It reserves to itself complete freedom of action and to refrain from giving assurances which might fasten its course of procedure.

A decisive fight is daily expected between Sher Ali and Nizam-ul-Mulk. Two thousand of Sher Ali's troops have gone over to Nizam-ul-Mulk who has also captured an important post between Mastag and the capital.

December 10th.

Captain Shakespear, Superintendent of the South Leeward Hill, reached Lough on Sunday.

day and began arrangements for the punitive expedition against the villages responsible for the rising of March last. Two months' supply will be stocked at Lvoncoos village as the base of operations. Major Polley will command the Column and will arrive at Lough on the 20th with 200 men of 1-3rd Gurkhas.

The Calcutta Banks have asked Government whether, in the event of closing the mints, return will be made of the gold, or whether a period of grace would be allowed.

The 139 concealed gold bars and the 707 lock articles seized at Ferozepore were intended for sale to Pathans this winter.

December 13th.

It is rumored that an attempt has been made to poison the Maharaja of Benares. An official inquiry is to be made in the matter.

A report, as yet unconfirmed, says that Nizam-ul-Mulk has defeated Sher Ali, who has taken possession of Chitral.

BRUSSELS, December 14th.

M. Tinar, French delegate at the Monetary Conference, has been invited to Paris owing to his nomination to the Ministry, but his departure has been delayed by the elaboration of M. Foville's scheme; a definite proposal will be made on Saturday to adjourn the Conference until May next so as to enable the different Cabinets to fully reconsider the whole question.

VIENNA, December 14th.

His Imperial Highness the Archduke Francis Ferdinand d'Este has started for India.

LONDON, December 14th.

Messengers have arrived here from the King of Dahomey with proposals for the cession of Whydah to England, and declare that the French broke their compact with the King by advancing on Abomey, the King there fore burned Abomey and retired with a force of twenty thousand men. His Majesty is now making preparations for vengeance.

PARIS, December 14th.

From latest reports it appears to be undoubted that Baron Reinach committed suicide by taking an over dose of strychnine on account of the desperate efforts he had made to avert the threatened revelations in the Panama Canal Scandal. Reinach is accused of assisting Baron Rouchet in his attempt to hush up the case. The Monarchists and Revolutionists of all shades are seeking to fan the fire of discord in Paris and over the whole of France with the present regime consequent on the daily extension of the Panama scandal.

LONDON, December 14th.

Mr. Henry Macleod has been authorized by Lord Herschell's Currency Committee to prepare a scheme for the restoration of a gold standard in India.

BRUSSELS, December 15th.

The report drawn up by the Committee of the Monetary Conference says that the Committee have only examined general principles and not details, and that practical measures are necessary to carry out the principles. The Conference not having yet pronounced on the general question, the Committee have not attempted to formulate a compromise between the different monetary doctrines advanced.

PARIS, December 15th.

At the pressing instance of Government the Chamber of Deputies in an excited debate rejected by a majority of six the bill conferring full judicial powers on the Panama Canal Scandal Committee. Government has promised to prosecute criminally instead of only civilly the directors of the Company as also those implicated in the scandal.

